



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822— Sanctuary completed 1867

September 11, 2022

14th Sunday After Pentecost

OUR WELCOMING STATEMENT

Central United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation. Regardless of your race, ethnicity, immigration status, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic situation, age, ability, belief, or background, whether you are single or partnered, you are God's beloved and you are welcome here.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We envision Central United Methodist Church as a vital, diverse, River of Life nurtured by the light of Christ, rooted deeply in and living the scriptures, a holy presence in the center of the City of Detroit, transforming individuals, institutions, and the world, advocating peace and justice in all we do.

* Indicates when to stand, if able in body or in spirit. **Please silence cell phones.

Hymnal Guide: UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal; TFWS = The Faith We Sing;

SOZ = Songs of Zion; WS=Worship & Song

PRELUDE

Myra Trask, Guest Organist

INTROIT

Bobbi Thompson

ACTS OF PRAISE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: If we wander from Love's way out of fear or in pursuit of power,

ALL: God reaches after us.

ONE: If we are turned away from the places we once called home,

ALL: God companions us.

ONE: If we desire to create places of belonging that are just and restorative,

ALL: God empowers us.

ONE: If we go looking for what has been missing within us,

ALL: God meets us in the searching.

ONE: Praise be to God who leads us on paths of restoration.

***OPENING HYMN**

Come, We Who Love God's Name (adapted from UMH #732)

- 1. Come, we who love God's name, and let our joys be known; together God's great love proclaim, and thus surround the throne.**
- 2. Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God; but we our thanks and praise will bring for love so deep and broad.**
- 3. God's grace on earth is found, the seeds of glory sown; celestial fruits on earthly ground from faith and hope have grown.**
- 4. The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets, before we reach the heavenly fields, or walk the golden streets.**
- 5. Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry; we're traveling through Emmanuel's ground, to greater worlds on high.**

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ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S TIME

Deaconess Anne Hillman

UNISON PRAYER

Holy One, we know we need each other. We know that we depend on one another to build communities that are whole and healthy. When there are rifts and wounds among us or around us, may we be people who show up to the work of repair and restoration. For this sacred labor strengthen our hearts and ground us in your love. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Friends, we do not have the answers to the world's great pain or even our community's pain. But we do know this. That loving one another, practicing vulnerability together; and seeking the transforming hand of God heals and restores. In this spirit, let us bring what we have and share it with God and one another. I invite you to the offering.

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God for all that love has done. Creator, Christ and Holy One.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Pursuer of Love, Seeker of Justice, we bring these gifts in gratitude for your relentless commitment to a restored creation. Even when we struggle to grasp the sacred possibilities before us, you remain at work. And so, in you we put our trust and offer these gifts to you, praying your will may be done, and your kingdom may come. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

***CENTERING HYMN**

Amazing Grace

(Adapted from UMH #378)

- 1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a soul like me! I once was
lost, but now am found, was blind but
now I see.**
- 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to
fear, and grace my fears relieved; How
precious did that grace appear the hour
I first believed!**
- 3. Through many dangers, toils and
snares, I have already come; 'Tis grace
has brought me safe thus far, and grace
will lead me home.**

- 4. My God has promised good to me,
whose word my hope secures; God will
my shield and portion be as long as life
endures.**
- 5. When we've been there ten thousand
years, bright shining as the sun, we've
no less days to sing God's praise than
when we'd first begun.**

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ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

***SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 15:1-10

(Inclusive Bible)

Meanwhile, the tax collectors and the “sinners” were all gathering around Jesus to listen to his teaching, at which the Pharisees and the religious scholars murmured, “This person welcomes sinners and eats with them!”

Jesus then addressed this parable to them: “Who among you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, doesn't leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and search for the lost one until it's found? And finding it, you put the sheep on your shoulders in jubilation. Once home, you invite friends and neighbors in and say to them ‘Rejoice with me! I've found my lost sheep!’” I tell you, in the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need to repent.

“What householder, who has ten silver pieces and loses one, doesn't light a lamp and sweep the house in a diligent search until she finds what she had lost? And when it is found, the householder calls in her friends and neighbors and says, ‘Rejoice with me! I've found the silver piece I lost!’” I tell you, there will be the same kind of joy before the angels of God over one repentant sinner.”

ONE: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

Lost and Found

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

***CLOSING HYMN**

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

TFWS #2151

- 1. I'm so glad, Jesus lifted me, I'm so glad,
Jesus lifted me, I'm so glad, Jesus lifted
me, singing glory, hallelujah, Jesus lifted
me.**
- 2. Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me,
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah, Jesus lifted me.**

- 3. When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
when I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
when I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah, Jesus lifted me.**

WORDS: African American spiritual; MUSIC: African American spiritual;
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BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

*BENEDICTION

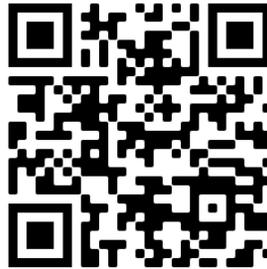
Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

Though we may leave from here, Love goes with us.
To the edges of the earth and to the depths of the sea,
Love would follow us.

Always searching for connection, always seeking to mend and restore, the Holy One goes before us, goes within us, and follows after us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

Myra Trask, Guest Organist



Please help us know you were here in worship today by scanning the QR code above with your phone. There is also a place for notes and prayer requests for the pastor.

**Central United Methodist Church
23 East Adams, Detroit, Michigan 48226 ~ 313.965.5422
www.centralumchurchdetroit.org**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel, Senior Pastor
Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus
Deaconess Anne Hillman, Ph.D. Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries
Bobbi Thompson, Interim Music Director
Debra Cox, Office Administrator
Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent
Yvette Meadows and Angela Bakeley, Receptionists

This service is live-streamed under CCLI STREAM PLUS 21469425.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Central United Methodist Church acknowledges that the building in which we carry out our collective life together occupies and is built upon land that is part of what was first known as Waawiyataanong (“At the curved shores.”), the ancestral and contemporary homeland of the Three Fires Confederacy, but which is now referred to as Detroit. In 1807 the Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi, and Wyandot nations granted use of these sovereign lands to the US government through the Treaty of Detroit. Central United Methodist Church affirms the continued Indigenous sovereignty over these lands and honors all tribes with a connection to Detroit. We commit ourselves to working together with our native brothers and sisters to advance equity in all dimensions of life and to promote a better future for the earth and all its peoples.

(Adopted by the Ministry Team -April 22, 2021)